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FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIA DE TIMOR-LESTE INDEPENDENTE

(REVOLUTIONARY FRONT FOR AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR)

FRETILIN

6 May, 1986

URGENT

Memo to all East Timor Solidarity Groups

Subject: Meeting of the UN Special Committee on Decolonisation

1) The Special Committee on Decolonisation, commonly known as the Committee of 24, will hold its annual session in August this year. East Timor is on the agenda. Fretilin plans to make a joint effort, with UDT, to highlight the East Timor question at this session.

2) The session on East Timor will take place some time in mid August. Member states will address the Committee. The rules of the Committee allow any NGO or individual to address it on any issue on the agenda. I appeal to all solidarity groups to send a representative to New York to address this meeting. I would also like to ask you to contact other NGOs or individuals in your country who have an interest in East Timor and/or Indonesia to do this as well. The idea is to get as many speakers as possible to address the committee and thus ensure that East Timor gets a strong focus of attention.

3) Here are some suggestions of people who could petition the Committee. This list does not exclude others who might be able to attend:

USA: Noam Chomsky, Roger Clark (International League of Human Rights) and Sue Roff (Minority Rights Group).
Europe: Lord Avebury (chair, Parliamentary Human Rights Group), CIIR and Tapol; ASTO (France); Indonesia Committee (Holland); Pax Christi and Pax Romana (Geneva); Klemens Ludwig (Germany); a number of speakers from Portugal; Amnesty International.
Japan: Ms Takaka Doi, MP.
Australia: Pat Walsh and Senator Gordon McIntosh.

4) Each organisation or individual wanting to address the Committee should write, not later than 15 July, to:
The Chairman, Special Committee on Decolonisation,
Attention: Mr Tom Tanaka,
33rd Floor, UN Secretariat Building,
New York, NY 10017.

5) A copy of the letter should be sent to Jose Ramos Horta, c/o Mozambique Mission, 866, UN Plaza, Room 523, New York, NY 10017.

6) There is no limit to the length of each statement, but it would be advisable to keep it no longer than 10 or 15 minutes.

7. For your information, the session will be filmed by the UN Department of

Public Information. A copy of the film can be obtained for subsequent use.

8) Anyone wishing to attend the session should make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. I hope by the middle of July to be able to inform you of the exact date of the session on East Timor, which should last two days.

9) One important thing to remember: speakers should have their text ready well in advance of the session, and should bring 30 copies for distribution. Please, at all costs, avoid writing your address at the last moment, and expecting us in New York to handle photocopying. Anyone needing help with a hotel reservation should let me know in advance.

10) I would appreciate having some feedback on this by the end of June.

Jose Ramos Horta,
Secretary, International Relations and Information.